Defence Agreement between India and Italy

3426. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Italy have signed a Defence Agreement recently;

(b) if so, the items of defence equipments to be obtained by India from Italy under this agreement; and

(c) other details in this regard ?'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The agreement concluded between the Government of India and the Government of Italy is not for acquisition of any particular equipment, but is in the nature of a frame work agreement that seeks to encourage, facilitate and develop cooperation in the field of defence between the two countries.

Setting up of National War Memorial and War Museum

3427. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National War Memorial and a War Museum;

(b) whether most of the countries have these monuments;

(c) if so, at which place these are proposed to be set up;

(d) the anticipated expenditure; and

(e) by when these are likely to come in shape ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) We are not aware of it.

(c) National War Memorial is proposed to be set up in the Central Vista near India Gate and National War Museum in the National Capital Region outside Delhi, subject to availability of a suitable site.

(d) After selection of site, the expenditure will be assessed.

(e) No time-limit can be fixed.